



Norman H. Bangerter  
Governor

Dee C. Hansen  
Executive Director

Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D.  
Division Director

# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

355 West North Temple  
3 Triad Center, Suite 350  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84180-1203  
801-538-5340

DOGM  
MINERALS PROGRAM  
FILE COPY

August 21, 1989

Mr. Michael Gibson  
Environmental Manager  
Kennecott Minerals Company  
8362 West 10200 South  
Bingham Canyon, Utah 84006-0525

Dear Mr. Gibson:

Re: Bingham Pit Variance Question, M/035/002, Salt Lake County, Utah

My staff has revised the question as to whether or not a variance to construct the Bingham pit slopes at angles greater than 45° should be requested by Kennecott. Such a variance is required by our current rules, and was required by our preceding rules.

At this time, the Division is not ready to make the determination that such a variance is necessary. We need to evaluate our files further, particularly in regard to the recent Modernization Project approval.

My present feeling is that the permit approval, granted the Modernization Project, allows the pit slope angles greater than 45°. Language in the application submitted by Kennecott did specify that pit slopes would exceed the 45° limit; however, no specific variance was ever granted by the Division.

Sincerely,

Lowell P. Braxton  
Associate Director, Mining

jb  
MN5/129

0002